

News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NEW PUBLICATION TELLS THE STORY OF THE CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS (CCC) IN CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS

The story of the Civilian Conservation Corps in California State Parks is one told best through the eyes, and memories, of the men who wielded pick and shovel to create beautifully handcrafted works in those dark days of the Depression. A new publication, *"By The People, For The People: The Work of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) in California State Parks, 1933-1941"* tells just that story.

Written by former California State Parks Associate Editor of Publications Joseph H. Engbeck, Jr., the book is a richly illustrated history of the contributions of the CCC in the early development of the California State Parks System. The 155-page soft-cover publication includes interviews with former CCC members, using over 250 historic and contemporary photographs to illustrate the daily life of CCC members and feature their uniquely American architectural and landscape design style known as "park rustic"—much of which still stands and is in use today throughout the State Park system. As author Engbeck notes: "Many of the more obvious improvements that State Park visitors find impressive to this day—camp stoves, campfire centers, outdoor theaters, buildings and bridges made of stone and other native materials—were the result of the CCC program."

The book is a project of the Office of Historic Preservation, funded in part by the Cultural Resources Division's Stewardship Program. Released to coincide with the Centennial celebration of Big Basin State Park, the book will be available September 14th through the California State Parks Store online (www.calparksestore.com), as well as through commercial retail outlets such as Tower, Barnes and Noble, and Borders bookstores. Copies will also be available to purchase on-site at various State Park units with CCC-connections throughout California; the cost of the book is \$19.95, plus tax.

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